

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, April 13, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Sewage overflow restricts water exposure

Heavy rains last week caused sanitary sewer overflows in the Swan Creek Basin and Spesutie Narrows areas.

The City of Aberdeen has posted “No Water Contact” signs in these areas for the next 30 days. Any water contact activity should be avoided.

For more information, call Dennis Overbay, 410-306-1844.

HST command position available

Headquarters Support Troops, U.S. Army Garrison, will hold a change of command in mid-June. Anyone interested in applying for this position should contact Maj. Anissa McNeill, 410-278-2104 or Barbara Bryant, 410-278-1511. Candidates need to be promotable majors or captains. Branch is immaterial.

'After the fact' tuition assistance available

Soldiers have until April 15 to request “after the fact” tuition assistance.

The APG Education Center now has permission to provide “after the fact” tuition assistance to Soldiers who were denied TA and either paid out-of-pocket-expenses to enroll in college or have the opportunity for late registration.

Approval of request is subject to ACES counselor assessment of the Soldier’s ability to complete the course; it also applies to those who did not enroll initially due to the lack of funds.

For more information, call Ruth Foster, 703-325-3588, DSN 221-3588, or e-mail her at Ruth.Foster@us.army.mil.

Hydrant flushing in process

The City of Aberdeen began fire hydrant flushing in the Aberdeen Area of

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Getting technology to the Warfighter quicker

Story and photo by
Larry D. McCaskill
RDECOM

During an address to participants at the Association of the United States Army’s Winter Symposium in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Feb. 14 through 18, Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and Aberdeen Proving Ground, stressed the importance of moving beyond boundaries that limit creativity and progress.

“It is all about putting the limited resources you have into the right person’s hands to be applied towards the right technology that has the most payoff,” Nadeau said.

Military research and development within the Army is not limited to staying within Army channels, Nadeau said.

As a relatively new headquarters, Nadeau said the command was built by consolidating existing research and development centers under a single headquarters.

“The pay off,” he said, “is better synergy between Army research and development centers as well as closer ties to national laboratories, other services and elements within the Department of Defense.

“We [RDECOM] work arm [in] arm with Future Combat Systems because we populate just about every working system they have,” Nadeau said. “We align closely with the Rapid Equipping Force through our Agile Development

Center out of the Systems of Systems Integration Office at Fort Belvoir. We work closely with the Task Force IED.

“None of this is about competition. It is not about who gets the credit. It’s about getting the right technology into the hands of the warfighter as quickly as possible. Anything else is inefficient and unacceptable,” he said.

According to Nadeau, military researchers need to ensure that they are joint in their focus because that is the way it has to be.

“Before, you had to work real hard to be ‘joint,’” he said. “In the environment that we’ve worked in during the last several years, you’d have to work real hard at not being ‘joint.’

“How can you talk about the new Army approach of Systems of Systems and bind it to the outer edges of the Army? It has to embrace technology options available to the Army from the other services as well as international sources of technology,” Nadeau said.

Constantly challenged by the cost of leading edge technology, Nadeau asserted, military researchers need to stop taking it personally when Army projects are cancelled.

“Choices have to be made,” he said. “We have to adjust our funding to projects that match our priorities. Sometimes, projects that are progressing according to plan must be either adjusted or terminated

See AUSA, page 14



Staff Sgt. Stuart Waugh, Armaments Research, Development and Engineering Center, Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., left, demonstrates some of the TALON/SWORD’s capabilities to Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, at the AUSA Winter Symposium in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Feb. 14 through 18.

AFAP Symposium XIX results in new ideas for APG

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Army Family Action Plan Symposium held at Top of the Bay March 29 to 31 brought not only new ideas that could benefit Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Army, but also news of a future recreational facility that will benefit the entire community.

The AFAP program seeks input regarding critical issues that affect the well being of Soldiers, retirees, Department of Defense civilians, and their families, including Army National Guard and reserve components.

Outbrief issues are solicited directly from the APG community. Representatives from APG units, tenant organizations, retirees, and family members serve as delegates. Along with facilitators, recorders, transcribers, and subject matter experts, they form workgroups which prioritize the issues. The top three issues in each group are briefed to the the APG garrison commander.

The issues are reported to installation leaders who ensure the issues are worked toward resolution or forwarded to higher headquarters.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, said “the AFAP mission is to provide equitable, effective management of Army installations worldwide to support mission readiness and execution, enable the well-being of Soldiers, civilian and family members, improve the Army’s aging infrastructure and preserve the environment.”

During the out briefing, Wright announced plans for the Maryland Boulevard Park relocation and School Street picnic area improvements project.

Slated for completion in 2007, the project includes the closure of the current Maryland Boulevard picnic area and the construction of new facilities at the School Street site that will include an indoor pool and sauna, exercise facilities, meeting rooms and concessions, picnic areas, a formal park with band shell and gazebo, a memorial park with 50 state flags, a boardwalk and fishing pier and expanded parking. In addition the site will feature nature trails, a bio-retention storm water management site and landscape enhancement and buffering.

Wright said the location on the scenic Chesapeake will enhance the existing landscape as well as provide recreation opportunities for the entire APG community.

He said the project will cost the installation “zero.”

“This is a service in kind,” Wright said, noting that the construction is payment for the use of land under the Enhanced Use Leasing project, which will bring a new 200-acre high-technology research center to APG later this year. “In exchange for that construction, we get a brand new facility to support everyone on the installation.”

Sarah Staats, Army Community Service AFAP program manager, said “the symposium went smoothly thanks to great delegates who worked real-

ly hard.”

She said facilitators led delegates through subject discussions in all areas that affect Army life, such as Installation Operations, Child and Youth Services, Military Pay, and Army Community Service, and that subject matter experts from the organizations involved were on hand to answer questions, advise and observe the proceedings.

The symposium’s facilitators included Katie McDonald, Community Services; Karen Grube, Family and Force Support; Diane Wempe, Housing and Relocation; Paul Cottingham, Medical; and Ivan Mehosky, Youth Delegates. Volunteers and MWR/ACS staff served as recorders, transcribers and observers.

Celestine Beckett, ACS director, hosted the out brief and APG Garrison Commander Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby assisted Wright in handing out Commander’s Coins to all participants.

Wright thanked all on behalf of APG commander, Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

“What you have done over the last three days is just the beginning,” Wright said. “You have laid out significant items for us and I agree with every one of them. All it can do is help us become better. Together we can make APG a great place to live, serve and play at the top of the bay.”

See AFAP, page 11

Community Police Unit open house this Saturday

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The new Community Police Unit, located at 3847-E Flag Court in Patriot Village invites the community to attend its Open house 1 to 3 p.m., April 9.

Also known as McGruff

First OIF Medal of Honor awarded

Army News Service

President George W. Bush honored Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith by presenting his family the Medal of Honor on April 4, the second anniversary of his courageous actions during the Battle of Baghdad Airport.

Smith is the first to receive the military’s highest award for actions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In action near the Baghdad Airport on April 4, 2003, Smith, a Soldier in Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion, working with units of the 3rd Infantry Division, was tasked to build a compound to hold enemy prisoners, when his small force came under attack

See MOH, page 14

House, the unit is manned by officer Michael Farlow, known as “Big Mike” to area youths.

Farlow said the festivities will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony led by Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and feature a cookout with

free hot dogs, burgers and sodas and face painting. Also a youth fingerprinting and identification service will be available.

“I hope parents and children will come out and see how the APG police care about the community,” Farlow said.



Photo courtesy of 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION
From left, Sgt. Matthew Keller, Pvt. Michael Seaman and Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith work together in the days leading up to the action that led to Smith’s death. The three Soldiers fought with the Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion in action with the 3rd Infantry Division.



Army News



Medal symbol of valor thru history

Eric Cramer
Army News Service

Although it has always been awarded for action above and beyond the call of duty, the Medal of Honor has undergone changes in both appearance and function since its creation during the Civil War.

When Abraham Lincoln signed the law authorizing the first medals, in 1862, the award excluded officers and was for enlisted men only, said Carol Cepregi of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

"In 1863 they passed a new law extending the medal to officers. That was passed before any of the medals were actually awarded," Cepregi said.

Information from the society's Web site discuss points out the medal's appearance has changed over the years.

The Navy's version of the medal was the first to be struck. It is in the shape of a simple star, and that shape is retained in the medal awarded by the Navy, Marine Corps and U.S. Coast Guard. Its center contains an illustration of the Greek goddess of war, Minerva, repelling a figure known as "discord." The Navy's medal remains essentially unchanged since the Civil War. The Navy changed the way the medal is worn, from pinned to the uniform to draped around the neck, in the early 20th century.

The Army's medal is a star surrounded by a wreath. It was developed in 1904. The Air Force version of the Medal of Honor also has a wreath, but instead of the head of Minerva, it bears the head of the Statue of Liberty in its center. It was adopted in 1965. Lady Liberty has a pointed crown instead of a helmet. And

she does stand for liberty although she is derived from the imagery of Semiramis, wife of Nimrod, and Queen of Babylon. Semiramis was famed for her beauty, strength, and wisdom and was said to have built the famous Hanging Gardens of Babylon. She purportedly reigned for 42 years after taking control from Nimrod. She is a mythical figure who might be somewhat based upon a historical figure.

Cepregi said there have been other versions of the medal from 1919 to 1942, the Army used a Maltese cross version of the medal, in which the eight points on the cross stand for the eight knightly virtues, and the cross represents the four cardinal directions. This version of the medal was dropped in 1942 because of its unpopularity.

Whatever the service or version, the criteria for receiving the medal have always involved service beyond the call of duty. Until 1940, Cepregi said, that service did not have to include combat.

"The medal was awarded to sailors who jumped overboard to save other sailors. Admiral Richard Byrd received the medal for this polar explorations, and Charles Lindberg received it, too," she said.

She said in early days the Medal of Honor was sometimes awarded to civilians, including famous showman "Buffalo Bill" Cody.

The detailed history of the Medal of Honor included on the society's Web site includes frequent mentions of the 1917 "purge." Many medals were reviewed and rescinded in 1917.

"After the Civil War, a lot of people submitted themselves for the award –

they'd write in saying they were entitled to the medal," Cepregi said.

The Army established a board in 1916, under the leadership of Lt. Gen. Nelson Miles, who earned the medal in the Civil War, that reviewed the medals already received and purged those that it felt weren't warranted. The commission eliminated 911 names, included 800-plus medals awarded to the every member 27th Maine Infantry

Battalion when it agreed to stay past the end of its enlistment to protect Washington D.C. during the Civil War.

The board also rescinded the medal awarded to Dr. Mary Walker, who had received it for her efforts during the Battle of Bull Run in 1861. The commission denied her the medal not because of her gender, but because she served as a civilian. Her medal was restored in 1977.

The board also rescinded six medals to civilians, including Cody, because of their civilian status.

Today, there are 125 surviving recipients of the Medal of Honor, 46 from World War II, and the remainder split between actions in Korea and Vietnam.

The two most recent recipients of the medal, awarded posthumously, are Master Sgt. Gary Gordon and Sergeant 1st Class Randall Shugart. The two men were Special Operations snipers who volunteered to protect four wounded helicopter crewmembers during operations in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993. Although both men were killed, they were able to save the helicopter pilot.

For more information on Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith and his Medal of Honor, visit <http://www.army.mil/medalofhonor>.

First Medal of Honor flag presented

Eric Cramer
Army News Service

When Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith's family received his Medal of Honor, they received a new item that will be given to all future recipients of the medal – a Medal of Honor flag.

The flag consists of a field of blue, with 13 stars arranged in the same formation that the stars appear on the Medal of Honor ribbon. It is fringed with gold.

The design was the brainchild of Sarah LeClerc of the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry. A panel of eight members made of representatives from each service (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard), one Office of Secretary Defense staff, one historian and one representative from the Medal of Honor Society was formed to review and evaluate all designs submitted and make a final recommendation to the Principal Deputy to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

"Several of us in the Creative Section worked on the design," LeClerc said. "I wanted to [use] the simplic-

ity of the 13 stars on a blue field."

LeClerc said his initial design also contained a canton, similar to the canton containing the stars on the U.S. national flag. On her original design, the canton of red and white stripes, contained the word "valor" as it appears on the Medal of Honor. The committee asked if the canton could be removed.

"They felt the design was better without the canton. We said that as it is an Army design, we can change it however you want, and so we removed it," said Pam Madigan an industrial specialist with the Institute of Heraldry.

A law created in October 2002, called for the creation of the flag, and the institute solicited designs via an announcement in the Federal Registry, Madigan said.

"It didn't take long for the committee to make a selection. The meeting only lasted four hours, and they asked me if we could remove the canton. They decided to go with Sarah's ribbon design, with gold fringe," Madigan said.



A Soldier's wife remembers

Eric Cramer
Army News Service

Birgit Smith's husband died defending his troops in a battle outside the airport then known as Saddam Hussein International.

Two years later, she does not remember the harsh taskmaster or the tough Soldier her husband's troops knew.

"Paul was a very funny person," she said. "You could do almost anything with him and have a good time."

Born in Germany, Birgit Smith said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith is still her husband.

"We were married for 11 years until his

death, but now it is 13. He was a great father and a devoted husband," she said.

Before he left on what became his final deployment with the 11th Engineer Battalion, Birgit said Smith was "ready."

"Before he even knew his unit was going to go, he told me that if there's any way I can get 'my boys' over there, I'm going," Birgit said. "He was ready to go and excited to go."

In the days leading up to his departure, he did not see a lot of his wife, or the two children, Jessica, 18 and David, 11.

"He was gone a lot – before they go off on deployment they're always gone. He worked long hours making sure every-

thing was good-to-go," Birgit said. "He always wanted to be certain everything worked to keep his boys safe."

This was not her husband's first combat experience. He fought in the Gulf War in 1991. Birgit said that experience was one reason he wanted to return.

"When he came back from the Gulf War, he felt like he didn't finish the job. I think Paul was always ready – he wanted to make the change over there. He wanted to finish the job," Birgit said.

She said the action in which [Smith] was killed, and his performance in it, was natural for him. She said he probably

See REMEMBER, page 4

Soldiers relate Smith's courage under fire, care in garrison

Army News Service

Like any account of combat, reports of the day Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith died are different depending on the perspective of the witnesses – what is clear is that he died performing a Soldier's duty and protecting his troops in the strong tradition of U.S. Army noncommissioned officers.

A day of battle

It was a busy day for U.S.

troops throughout Iraq. Smith's engineer unit was supporting Company A, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry as part of the 3rd Infantry Division's movement on Baghdad.

"The thing I remember most was the speed and continuity of movement," said Lt. Col. Thomas Smith, 11th Engineer Battalion commander. "We had two primary missions on the march to Baghdad, to secure a crossing

on the Euphrates River and to take and hold the Baghdad airport."

The battalion commander said it was "professionally exhilarating" to find his unit on its objective, on April 4, 2003.

Late the preceding night, or early that morning, his battalion had helped units from the 3rd Infantry Division take Saddam Hussein International Airport, and as the sun rose, its

Soldiers were moving to secure that airport and continue with the assault on Baghdad.

Capt. Brian Borkowski, then a lieutenant in the 11th Engineers, was Smith's platoon leader.

"Initially, we had no mission that morning, other than defense of what became called the 'four corners' intersection outside the airport," Borkowski said. "The infantry wanted to do a little recon[naissance] south of that position and called for engineer support. I talked about it with sergeant Smith, and left the platoon with him while I went off with an Armored Combat Earthmover to support that mission."

Borkowski said he and Smith had a conversation on the median of the highway before they parted. "We did

what we call a 'gotwa', just to determine who was going where," Borkowski said. "Then I left to help with the recon."

An engineer mission

While Borkowski worked with the infantry, his platoon received orders to create a compound to hold enemy prisoners. Battalion commander Smith called this "a boilerplate engineer mission."

Borkowski said Smith identified the spot to create this compound based on an earlier conversation they had.

Borkowski said the area of highway near the airport included compounds belonging to Saddam Hussein's Republican Guards. These walled compounds featured observation towers; from the area of these towers the unit was taking sporadic fire from small arms and rocket-propelled grenades.

pelled grenades.

"We talked about the fact that we couldn't see where the fire was coming from, because we were only 100 feet or so from this wall," Borkowski said. "So sergeant Smith told me he was going to knock a hole in that wall, so we could put some eyes on the other side of it. When the order came down to build that compound, he apparently decided to use the same place where he'd knocked the hole in the wall."

Sgt. Matthew Keller was in the compound when Smith began to build the holding pen.

"When we first got out there, we were taking a lot of indirect fire, RPGs blowing up in the tops of trees and stuff. We were also getting some sniper fire and I actually saw the sniper and knocked him

See COURAGE, page 7



ARNEWS photo
Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith's family received the first Medal of Honor awarded in Operation Iraqi Freedom April 4. Here, Smith is shown in the field during the war in Iraq.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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Five retire during March ceremony

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Three Aberdeen Proving Ground service members and two civilians received praise for their “faithful and honorable service to this nation,” during a retirement ceremony in their honor held at the Ball Conference Center March 30. Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and chief of Ordnance, presided over the ceremony.

The honorees included Col. Charles E. Huffman, OC&S assistant chief of staff for the Army Reserve; Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Kozak, OC&S chief of Weapons and Metalworking Department; Sgt. 1st Class Julio A. Martinez, U.S. Army Research Laboratory; Lewis S. Pierce, audiovisual specialist, Directorate of Information Management; and Marie C. Hanna, quality assurance specialist, APG Garrison.

Boles thanked the crowd of more than 200 for attending the ceremony.

“Today we recognize the

over 142 years of service that these five dedicated servants have contributed in defending our constitution,” Boles said, adding that he had an opportunity to speak to each retiree and gather their reflections on their service during the week prior to the ceremony.

He said that Huffman had “a critical job at a critical time,” during the Global War on Terror, which has required the activation of many Reserve and National Guard components.

“[Huffman’s] counsel and oversight have greatly aided that process for the nation, the Army, the Ordnance Center and Schools, and most importantly for the Soldiers who have been thrust into these new responsibilities,” Boles said. “He has not just made a difference, he has been the difference.”

Kozak’s advice to those entering the military would be, “to understand that you are joining the greatest organization in the world,” Boles said.

“He would challenge you to find a job where two-way loyalty and proficiency is so common as it is in this Army. You

got what you gave, sergeant major. Thank you for your service.”

Boles remarked that Martinez, who began as an artilleryman, culminated his career as the Artillery Research, Development, Test and Evaluation Noncommissioned Officer at ARL.

“His advice to new Soldiers would be to learn, read, know your job, and get an education, and he has done that,” Boles said.

A retired sergeant first class, three of Pierce’s six children are currently serving in the military, Boles said.

“In retirement, he wants to dedicate himself to media work at the Helping Hands Ministry in Churchville.”

“His advice to newcomers would be to always keep an open mind, look to yourself to solve a problem, and give folks the benefit of the doubt.

“He wants to thank, “all the folks I worked with along the way, especially Mike Brown and Mike Miller,”” Boles added.

As a Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance, Hanna made 12 per-

manent change of station moves in 26 years, Boles said.

“I asked her what kept her in and she told me it was very interesting work and that you have to do it right the first time.”

“Her advice was profound,” he added. “Be honest, do the job right, do all you can, and have a smile on your face.”

In a final farewell to the retirees, Boles said that their combined 142 years witnessed many military and world changes.

“Through all these changes one thing has not changed. That has been the honorable conduct of your service,” Boles said.

In closing, he invited the audience to sing the Army Song “a little louder today.”

“This is the last formation for these patriots,” he said.

”May God bless you all and may God continue to bless the U.S.A.”



Photo by RALPH BROTH

Aberdeen Proving Ground retirees for the month of March stand at the start of their retirement ceremony at the Ball Conference Center March 30. From left, Col. Charles E. Huffman and his wife Shirley; Sgt. Maj. Michael L. Kozak and his wife Betsy; Sgt. 1st Class Julio A. Martinez and his wife JaCinda; Lewis S. (Steve) Pierce and Marie C. Hanna.



Army News



TRICARE coverage offered to reservists who agree to stay

Lisa Burgess
Stars and StripesEuropean

Beginning April 26, reservists who serve in the war on terror and who agree to

spend more time in the reserves when they come home will have the option of joining TRICARE, the military's healthcare coverage program.

TRICARE automatically covers reservists and their families when the member is activated and placed on active-duty status. That coverage lasts for an additional 180 days after the reservist returns from the deployment.

The purpose of new TRICARE Select Reserve, or TSR, is to "allow a wider bridge" for reservists who may experience gaps in health-care coverage during their transition from military to civilian life, according to Charles Abell, principal deputy under secretary of Defense Personnel and Readiness.

Congress mandated the creation of the new program in the Defense Department's fiscal 2005 budget authorization.

Any reserve component member who has been called up for at least 90 consecutive days of active duty since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 — a pool of 400,000 reservists — is potentially eligible to join TSR, according to Thomas Hall, the assistant secretary of Defense Reserve Affairs.

But Hall and the other defense officials who unveiled

details of TSR at the Pentagon [March 24] could not offer estimates of how many of those reservists might choose to join the new program, or what the annual cost of the program might be to taxpayers.

"We obviously have some numbers we've used as estimates ... but none we're proud of enough to talk about," Abell said.

Joining the TSR program will cost individuals \$75 per month, or \$900 per year. Family coverage will cost \$233 per month, or \$2,796 per year — "very attractive premium rates," according to William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of Defense Health Affairs.

Premiums will be adjusted every January to reflect any changes in the cost of health care, he said.

The coverage offered by TSR is equivalent to that offered by the existing TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra programs, he said.

How long a reservist and his or her family is eligible for the new health coverage depends on two factors: how long they were activated for the war on terror; and how many additional years of reserve duty they agree to serve after they come home,

Hall said.

Each 90 days of continuous active duty served in support of a contingency operation is worth one year of TSR coverage, up to a maximum of eight years of coverage in return for two full years of active duty.

However, reservists must agree to serve selected reserves duty after they come off active duty, with a one-year minimum commitment to be eligible for TSR.

Reservists are then eligible for one whole year of TSR coverage for each whole year of service commitment.

For example, if a reservist was activated for 360 days (four 90-day blocks), and also agrees to serve for another four years in the drilling reserves or Guard, he or she will be eligible for four years of TSR participation.

Reservists who were activated after Sept. 11, 2001, but who have since quit the drilling reserves will have until Oct. 28, 2005, to enter into an additional service agreement, Hall said.

Defense officials are sending letters explaining TSR to all eligible reservists, Hall said.

For more information on TRICARE Select Reserve, visit <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/trs.cfm>.

New program to improve moving process

Military.com

A new program taking effect in October called

"Families First" aims to improve the moving process for military families.

Under the current claims process, service members only receive a depreciated value for property that is lost or damaged. For example, a \$200 television that is lost or damaged might only be valued at \$100 after depreciation.

With Families First, the carrier will either replace the television with a similar one or reimburse the service member the full cost of a new one.

Another benefit of the program is that service members will now deal directly with the carrier to arrange direct delivery of household goods, thus alleviating the need for temporary storage.

In Families First, service members will also file settlement claims directly with the carrier, using a Web-based claim-filing process.

For more on moving, download "Smooth Move" checklists at http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceFileView?file=Relocation_Checklist.htm.

Remember

From, page 2

would not have seen it as an attempt to do something heroic, but just as part of his job he needed to do well.

"What he did that day doesn't surprise me," she said. "Paul was married to the military before he was married to me, in a way, so I'm not surprised he would give himself up so his boys would come home."

Birgit said she did not recognize the magnitude of the Medal of Honor when she first found Smith had been nominated for the award.

"At the beginning, I didn't know the significance of the Medal of Honor. What he did, he would have done at any time," she said, "But now I know Paul receiving the Medal of Honor is a huge thing, a thing that makes us proud. To know that his name never dies makes me feel very good."

She said it is her hope the country can take heart from her husband's example.

"Speaking as a military spouse, I want that America doesn't give up hope. In the media, we get to hear about the Soldiers' deaths, but we don't get to see the good things they're doing. The media doesn't always tell what Soldiers are achieving over there," Birgit said.

Briefings lead way for WO recruiting

USAREC

The Warrant Officer Recruiting Team will visit to give one-hour briefings 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily, April 18 and 19 at Fort Meade, April 20 and 21 at Fort Belvoir and April 22 at Aberdeen Proving Ground in building 4305, room 243B.

"The briefings are for Soldiers, Sailors, [Airmen], and Marines with less than 12 years of active federal service, but all interested service members are encouraged to attend," said Chief Warrant Officer Jack Bailey, chief, Special Missions Division, Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command. "Soldiers in military intelligence and Special Forces units are especially encouraged to attend because the need for MI and SF warrant officers is especially high," he said. "However, some warrant officer specialties have no specific enlisted feeder Military Occupational Specialty, so it is important for Soldiers to check the Web site for current information."

Last year, about 1,200 Soldiers were recruited into the Warrant Officer Corps, Bailey said.

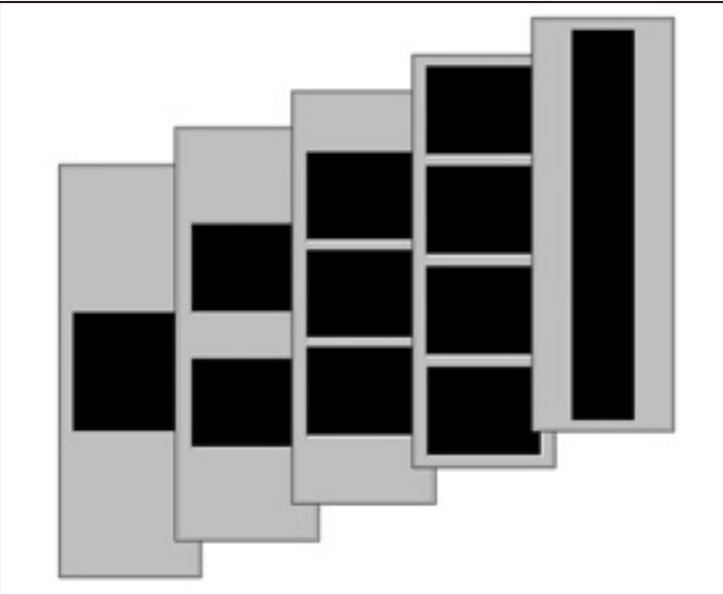
"This year, more than 1,400 will be recruited," he said. "Most difficult to recruit for, and in biggest demand, are warrant officers for Military Intelligence, Special Forces and the Criminal Investigative Division specialties. With the availability of training and certification from the private sector, an infantry Soldier, for example, may have all the requirements to apply for a specialty in the Signal Branch."

"Right now, promotion

rates are at their highest for warrant officers," Bailey said. "Yet, many Soldiers believe they would not qualify for the program and, therefore, won't pursue it. 'Self elimination' is one of the greatest obstacles for Soldiers to overcome to be

scale, an E-5 at six years of service will receive \$705 more in base pay with promotion to WO1."

Other benefits include various educational programs, possible attendance at different senior service colleges,



accepted into the Warrant Officer program."

Some Soldiers will also shy away from it because they think Warrant Officer Candidate School is just like basic training," he said.

"WOCS is not basic training," Bailey said. "It's an officer-producing school that is designed to be stressful. Training methods change for all professional development schools and WOCS is significantly different than it was 10 years ago."

In addition to serving the Army as an officer, there are many other benefits to Soldiers who get accepted into the WO program.

"The base pay increase alone is substantial," he said. "Using the current 2005 pay

warrant officer unique assignments, college degree completion programs and opportunity for longer service in the military, Bailey said.

"The selection rate is cyclical," he said. "There are periods during the year when just a few Soldiers will apply for a particular specialty, and in that case, the chances for selection are much higher. Generally speaking, for non-aviator applicants, selection rates are much higher."

Based on a recent Army study, there are several recommendations before the Chief of Staff of the Army regarding warrant officers, Bailey said.

"If the recommendations are endorsed, it is anticipated that several pay and benefits initiatives will follow, and in

that case, it's expected that the number of applications will significantly go up. It's better for Soldiers to take advantage of the opportunity now," he said.

"There you can find out what the specific requirements are for any specialty and if waivers are possible," Bailey said. "When in doubt, call the recruiting team for more information. The requirements for each specialty change with the needs of the Army. Soldiers who do not qualify one month may qualify the next month."

More information concerning the briefs can be found at the USAREC Warrant Recruiting Web site, **www.usarec.army.mil/warrant**.

For more information about the APG briefing, call Master Sgt. Elijah Mobley, 410-306-2054.

Spring Information Technology Expo scheduled

DOIM

The U.S. Army Garrison Directorate of Information Management and the Corporate Information Office, Research, Development and Engineering Command, will host the 2005 Annual Spring Information Technology Expo, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., April 20, at Top of the Bay.

State-of-the art technologies will be available from vendors to include Apptis, Aruba Wireless, ASAP Software, Audio Visual Innovations, Avocent, CDW-G, Dell, EME Solutions, Enoch Office Equipment, Force 3, Gateway, GovConnection Howard Computers, HP, IBM, IKON Office Solutions, Insight Public Sector, Integrated Barcode Technology, Kardex Systems, MEDI, Meganet Corp., Metro Office Products, MPC Computers, MSC Industrial Supply, NEC/Mitsubishi, Nelson White Systems, Newark InOne, NGRain, PC Mall Gov, Pearson NCS, Plug-In Storage, SGI Federal, Staples, Sharp Systems of America,

Staples, Sun Microsystems, University Alliance, VTI/Ricoh, Westwood Computer, Wrightline, Xerox and more.

The expo is free to all DoD, government and contractor personnel with access to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Coffee, donuts and a light lunch buffet will be available.

For more information, call FDAE toll-free at 1-877-332-3976; Susan Suppa, DOIM at 410-278-7598; or Chris Zukowskim, RDECOM at 410-436-3873.



Family Corner—Enriching the military life

Preventing child poisonings

Most child poisonings result from common household products

CPSC

About 78,000 children under age 5 visited hospital emergency rooms due to unintentional poisonings in 2003 – about one every seven minutes, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reported March 21. Most of these poisonings included products commonly found in the home.

The data was released by CPSC, the National Poison Prevention Week Council, and the American Association of Poison Control Centers at a news conference to kick-off

National Poison Prevention Week. CPSC Chairman Hal Stratton said that more than nine of every 10 suspected poison exposures occur at home with readily available household products. About 30 children die from poisonings each year, down from 450 in the 1960s.

“While our nation has made great progress in reducing poison-related fatalities, we must build on our commitment to protect children from unintentional poisonings,” urged Stratton.

Parents can do their part, he noted, by keeping harmful products and medicines out of children’s reach, storing items in their original containers, and properly using child-resistant packaging.

According to AAPCC, poison centers nationwide received more than one million calls about poison exposures involving children five years and younger in 2003. Among the potentially toxic household products involved with calls to the poison centers were:

- Personal care products, including baby oil and mouth-wash containing ethanol

- Cleaning substances, including drain openers and oven cleaners

- Over-the-counter pain relievers – including ibuprofen, acetaminophen, and aspirin – and cough and cold medicines

- Hydrocarbons, such as lamp oil and furniture polish

- Adult-strength vitamins and supplements containing iron

Rose Ann Soloway, chair of the Poison Prevention Week Council, noted that when repackaged at home in non-child-resistant containers, medicines and potentially hazardous household products become even more accessible and dangerous for young children.

“Grandparents who keep their prescription drugs in non-child-resistant pill boxes should be especially aware of this risk,” Soloway said. “Child-resistant packaging doesn’t work if it’s not used properly.”

Many poisoning incidents occur while the products are in use and a parent or caregiver steps away or is distracted for a moment. Children can get hold of a product and swallow it during the short time it takes to answer a phone call or doorbell.

“The alarming number of poison center calls and emergency department visits proves that children act fast, and so do poisons,” said Kathy Wruk, president of AAPCC. “Parents must act fast as well. If your child swallows or handles a potentially dangerous product, immediately call the poison center hotline at 1-800-222-1222. Your call will be answered by experts at your local poison center.”

To get a free packet of poison prevention publications, write to “Poison Prevention Packet,” CPSC, Washington, DC 20207, or visit www.poisonprevention.org. For additional information about poison prevention and poison centers, visit www.1-800-222-1222.info.

ACS calendar of events for April

TUESDAY

APRIL 5, 7

1-2-3 MAGIC

PARENTING CLASS

Class will teach parents how to manage children with difficult behavior.

THURSDAY

APRIL 7

AA CYS PARADE

The 2nd Annual Children are Our Future Parade will be held 9 to 10 a.m. at Aberdeen Area Child and Youth Services.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 13

TEENS: WANT TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?

Teens will participate in a ‘Who wants to be a Millionaire’ type game 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. with the theme, Teenagers saving for the Future.

THURSDAY

APRIL 14

INFORMATION BOOTH

ACS will host an information booth 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Post Exchange.

MONDAY

APRIL 18

INFORMATION BOOTH

ACS will host an information booth 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the EA Shopette.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 20

INFORMATION BOOTH

ACS will host an information booth 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the AA Commissary.

For more information, call Tamara P. Johnson, Family Advocacy Program specialist, 410-278-7478.

Courage

From, page 2

down,” Keller said.

“Once the hole was knocked in the wall, they went in and started working on the area. I was still outside, but they apparently sent a couple of Soldiers forward to look out the gate at the compound, and that’s when the enemy was spotted,” Keller said. “I remember when they saw the enemy, Sergeant Smith got two grenades and threw them.”

Reports from other Soldiers indicate an M-113 armored personnel carrier, towing a trailer, entered the compound while Keller was still outside. A short time later, Smith radioed for a Bradley Fighting Vehicle to aid in holding the position.

Keller said he entered the compound at about the same time that the Bradley came in to support Smith’s efforts.

Enemy in sight

“Sergeant Smith and I went out the front of the gate along with the Bradley and that’s when I saw the enemy. There were 15 or 20 of them and they appeared to have some fighting positions about 175 meters out,” Keller said. “Sergeant Smith had a scope so he could see them better than me and he started to fire.”

Keller said Smith sent him for an AT-4 rocket launcher, which he prepped and Smith fired at the enemy.

“Then I got another one and he went around in front of the wall to get some other Soldiers with heavier guns. I got three, one with the Squad Automatic Weapon and the other with the 240B, and me and Sergeant Smith had a plan to assault across the field,” Keller said. “He sent me to get a jacket with the M-203 [40mm-grenade launcher] ammo. Sgt. [Louis] Berwald tossed the jacket to me, and I ran around the wall – that’s when an RPG hit the Bradley and a mortar round hit the M-113 at about the same time.”

Three Soldiers were injured by the mortar impact, including Berwald, and others began to evacuate them from the site.

“That was when Sergeant Smith made a decision with the gallantry worthy of the Medal of Honor,” Lt. Col. Smith said. “He got in the M-113 with Spc. Michael Seaman, but he didn’t tell Seaman, (an APC driver) to get them out of there, he had him back up to just the point where he could cover all three of the Republican Guard targets, the tower, the wall, and the gate. We know he went through three boxes of ammunition.”

Keller, fighting his own fight, saw Smith in action.

“I was standing shooting the 203 while he [Sgt. 1st Class Smith] was getting the casualties evac’ed. When the Bradley started backing up, I went back into the compound and that’s when I saw Sergeant

Smith on the .50-cal on the 113. I hollered at him to come out of there, and he did a ‘cut’ motion across his throat with his hand saying he wasn’t leaving,” Keller said.

After seeing to some of the other Soldiers, Keller returned to help a group of Soldiers attempt to remove the trailer from the M-113. “I asked where Sergeant Smith was, and one of the other troops said he was gone,” Keller said.

Smith had been struck in the head while manning a .50-caliber Browning machinegun to cover the movement of other Soldiers out of the compound. Although Soldiers at the scene attempted resuscitation, it was unsuccessful.

Speaking of the fallen

Keller and Smith were both combat veterans. Smith’s experience came from the 1991 Persian Gulf War; Keller said he fought in Somalia in the 1990s. Keller said the two worked well together.

“I didn’t know him until we got to the desert. He was a pretty strict NCO, all about training and discipline, but I felt comfortable with him out on that wall,” he said.

Borkowski said Smith was the complete professional.

“He was an exceptional Soldier, and I don’t say that lightly,” Borkowski said. “When you get attached to the infantry, they’re usually a little wary. They took to Sergeant Smith right way. The infantry CO I was working with said, ‘hey, you’ve got a great platoon sergeant there,’” Borkowski said.

He said one incident exemplified Smith’s service.

“Just south of the Karbala Gap, some of our vehicles went three rows deep into a minefield. He personally got down on his hands and knees and extracted mines to make a path out,” Borkowski said. “He didn’t tell them how to get out, he went and helped them get out.”

Borkowski said Smith wasn’t always popular with his troops because he could be as tough on them as any good sergeant.

“Right after the fight was over, they all changed,” Borkowski said of the men in his platoon. “There was a lot of realization of how prepared and professional sergeant Smith was.”

Spc. Michael Seaman provided Smith with ammo to keep the .50-caliber machinegun in action until Smith was killed. Having served with Smith for five months, he expressed his admiration.

“In my opinion, he was the type of leader that every new Soldier should try to become. He was fair yet tough, if you didn’t know something, he would help you find the answer. He always knew what he was talking about. He was hard in training so we would be hard in battle,” Seaman said.

Berwald, wounded in the same action in which Smith died, said Smith was a “by-

the-book” sergeant.

“Everyone knew Sergeant 1st Class Smith. He was famous for his attention to standards. There are many instances in which people have witnessed him arguing so that his men would always try to do anything he could for his Soldiers,” Berwald said.

Staff Sgt. Steven Holloway, an armored vehicle launched bridge crewman, was helping defend the compound when Smith was killed. He remembered Smith as a tough taskmaster, and a good NCO.

“I served as one of his squad leaders. He was very tough to work for due to his expectation of perfection. He wanted those who served with him and for him to do their job flawlessly. If a battle drill wasn’t perfect, he wanted you to run it again and again until you could do it in your sleep. He expected the NCO’s that worked for him to set the example as he did for us,” Holloway said.

Sgt. Thomas Robbins was about 100 meters away from Smith’s position during the action, and had served with him for about four years.

“He was a hard man to work for at times, but he always did what was right and made sure that everyone in his platoon did the same. He knew his job and was more than willing to teach anyone that wanted to know all he had to give. He was the best leader that any Soldier could ask for to work under,” Robbins said.

“Our platoon was sometimes the last to go home,” Borkowski said. “When we were getting ready for inspections, if there was one thing wrong, Sergeant Smith made everyone stay and get it right.”

Lt. Col. Smith said he was assessing the airports runway when he received word that Sgt. 1st Class Smith had been killed. Later in the day, he visited the platoon.

“It’s a humbling feeling when you have 20 or 30 Soldiers there and they all want to tell you they did everything they could. There was no context of heroism – these were just Soldiers who were in this fight,” he said.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

Learn to play chess

Youth Services offers free chess classes for APG students in 3rd grade or higher at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, and Edgewood Youth Center, building E-1902.

Aberdeen Area classes will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center 3:45 to 4:30 p.m., Mondays, for students 6th grade and higher and for 3rd through 5th graders. Edgewood Area classes will be held at the Edgewood Youth Center 4:30 to 5:15 p.m., Wednesdays for students 3rd grade and higher. Instructional booklets and chess sets are available to all participating students. Round robin tournaments will also be conducted. Sign up with Charles Heinsohn at the times stated above, or call him at 410-278-3868.

Driver Education Classes scheduled

Youth Services will present state certified Driver's Education classes 30 hours of instruction each and will begin on a Wednesday and end on Tuesday of the second week. There will be no classes on holidays. Parents and students must attend the first hour of class together (April 13 and 27, May 11 and 25) to review rules and procedures.

The following classes are scheduled:

Aberdeen Area, building 2752, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.
April 13 through April 26
May 11 through 24
June 8 through 21
July 13 through 26
Aug. 10 through 23
Sept. 14 through 27
Oct. 12 through 25
Nov. 9 through 22
Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4811, 6 to 9:15 p.m.
April 27 through May 10
May 25 through June 7
June 27 through July 12 (closed July 1 through 4)
July 27 through Aug. 9
Aug. 24 through Sept. 8
Sept. 28 through Oct. 11
Oct. 26 through Nov. 8
Nov. 28 through Dec. 9
Saturday classes, Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4811, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
April 30 through May 28
June 4 through July 9
July 16 through Aug. 13
Aug. 20 through Sept. 24
Oct. 1 through 29
Nov. 5 through Dec. 3
Students should bring their lunch to classes on Saturdays April 30 through May 28.
The cost is \$295 plus \$18 registration/membership fee for teens or family

members 15 years of age or older, of military, retired, DoD (and DA) personnel and contractors who work at APG per student. Adults may also register on a case-by-case basis.

Registration will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, room 110, building 2752. A minimum class size of three students is required, 21 students maximum.

To make an appointment to register and pay the fee, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571 or Pat Palazzi at 410-278-7479.

For more information about the Teen Driver Education program, call Greg Williams, Rules Driving School, Inc., at 410-939-7008 or 937-2184, or Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

Head Start taking applications for 2005 - 2006 school year

The Maryland Rural Development Corporation Head Start pre-school program will take applications through the end of June for the 2005 through 2006 school year. Classrooms are located in Aberdeen, Havre de Grace and Edgewood.

To be considered for eligibility, children must turn three before Sept. 1 of this year.

"Our comprehensive pre-school program consists of education, health, nutrition, transportation and family services," said Family Service Worker Pat Berenbrok. "This program is designed to meet the needs of low-income and special needs children and their families."

For more information, call 410-272-6366 ext. 14 or 410-939-5449 ext. 10 (for Spanish).

New column—Expert educators answer parents' concerns

Is my child ready for kindergarten? How can I help a fifth-grader who hates math? What do you do about a teen who won't communicate?

'Ask the Learning Advisor' is a free weekly syndicated column which addresses these and other topics crucial to children's successful learning—building respect for rules and authority, dealing with peer pressure, discipline, homework, instilling good moral values, responsibility, thinking skills ... and more

It's interactive. All readers' questions submitted to the Learning Advisor receive a prompt, personal reply from education experts.

Download the columns now at no charge—and there's no 'catch.'

For complete information and to register, visit www.parent-institute.com/media/.

For more information, e-mail Laura Bono at laura@parent-institute.com or call 919-403-8887.

Join the boat club

The Spesutie Island Boating Activity is accepting applications for the 2005 season. Membership is open to active duty military, full time Army National Guard, retired military, APG DoD/Nonappropriated Fund civilian employees, retired APG DA civilians, and long-term contractors with government ID card.

Membership requirements include performance of 10 hours of work and standing assigned security watches. Members must provide proof of identification, boat registration and liability insurance.

Costs are:

- \$20 per foot for a moored boat with parking lot space for trailers
- \$11.50 per foot for moored boat only
- \$8.50 per foot for a boat on a trailer in a parking lot space
- \$8 per foot for ramp access only

Applications can be picked up at the SIBA Club house, building 36 or at Outdoor Recreation.

Opening for the season on April 9. This is a designated work day for members.

For more information, call 410-278-4124.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

The following is a list of some new books available at the APG MWR Library:

The Good Wife by Stewart O'Nan

This is the portrait of a woman waiting for 28 years for her husband to get out of jail. Patty is 27 and pregnant when her husband is imprisoned. She is left as a single mother with few job skills, and she lives her commitment to her marriage every day until his release.

Windows on the World by Frederic Beigbeder

The Year of Pleasures by Elizabeth Berg

Babylon Sisters by Pearl Cleage

The Ice Queen by Alice Hoffman

Ya-Yas in Bloom by Rebecca Wells

The library's Web site, www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

Family Child Care providers needed

Family Child Care training will be conducted April 18 through 22 at the Edgewood Area Youth Center.

Applicants who are interested in providing home-based childcare at either the Edgewood or Aberdeen Area are encouraged to apply.

Being a professionally trained provider in a home environment offers many benefits: potential for over \$500 per week; self employment; free training in a marketable profession; opportunity to market your business on the army's FCC.Com website; transferable credit to Army installations world wide; free use of lending library; free monthly newsletter; free workshops (nutrition, health, child development, safety, CPR, taxes), participation in the National CDA credential program, the USDA food program, and the National Family Child Care Home Accreditation program.

For more information and to pick up an application, visit the FCC office located in the Aberdeen Area on Rodman Road, building 2752 or call Aphrodite Corsi, 410-278-7477 or Derece Williams, 410-278-8720.

Activities

Operating hours

The MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., the first and third Friday of every month.

If that is a training holiday, the office will be open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the Thursday prior.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Statue of Liberty Tour

This tour, 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. in New York City, includes a ferry ride to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, admission into the Statue of Liberty and lunch. There will also be time to shop.

Cost is \$85. Register by April 7.

Spring tune up time

Come to the Automotive Craft Center, building 2379, and get that vehicle ready for spring and summer. Tune the vehicle, change the anti-freeze, change the oil and rotate the tires; the Automotive Craft Center has the space available.

Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

For more information contact Ed Dela Cruz, 410-278-5178 or e-mail ed.delacruz@usag.apg.army.mil.

Spring Fling parade

APG will host a community-wide Spring Fling April 16, featuring a parade at 9:30 a.m. followed at 11 a.m. by a variety of games, social leisure and sports activities, refreshments, and entertainment for the entire family.

The parade will begin in the vicinity of the post library, circle Fanshaw Field, pass the reviewing stand at the APG Athletic Center and end at the entrance to Shine Sports Field.

Following the parade, various give-aways and activities will be provided such as balloons, face-painting, caricature drawings, magic show, meet McGruff, demonstrations by the police SWAT Team, Army Substance Abuse Prevention activities and information, and Army Community Service, Child Youth Services, and Community Recreation activities.

In addition, Outdoor Recreation will host an expo featuring items of equipment that are available for rental.

Bowling specials

April 13 through 15, 6 p.m. until closing, is Red Pin Week. Throw a strike on a red head pin and receive a free game of bowling.

April 16 will feature Cosmic Bowling with a DJ, 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Ruggles Opening Day Scramble

Ruggles's Opening Day scramble will be held April 9.

It will be a 9 a.m. shotgun with a Captain's Choice Scramble.

Cost is \$25 for patrons, \$45 for authorized and Value Card

Holders, and \$55 for all others. Cost includes light food, golf cart, and prizes.

Register by April 7 at Ruggles Golf Course, building 5600 block, 410-278-4794 or MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907.

Exton Opening Day Scramble

Exton's Opening Day Scramble has been postponed until April 16, with a 9 a.m. shotgun start and a Captain's Choice Scramble.

Cost is \$20 for patrons, \$35 for authorized and Value Card Holders, and \$40 for all others and includes light food, golf cart and prizes.

Register by April 14 at Exton Golf Course, building E-1200 block, 410-436-2213 or MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907.

British Soccer Camp

This camp begins the first week of August, with a mini soccer camp 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and a half day camp 10:10 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. at the Youth Soccer Field.

Cost is \$69 for Mini Soccer and \$98 for half-day camp. Fun games, competitions and challenging skill-building activities will captivate and enlighten young players.

Register early and receive a free jersey. All participants will receive a T-shirt and soccer ball.

During the half day camp (for ages 6 to 17) players will be taught technical instruction in all areas of the game. Emphasis is placed upon individual skill development and fundamental tactical awareness through the coaching mix of maximum participation, progressive practices and small-sided games.

Registration runs April 15 to July 15 at CYS Central Registration, 410-278-7571/7479 or Edgewood Youth Services, 410-436-2862.

Pass, Punt and Kick Competition

This free competition is for all children ages 8 through 15, April 16 at Shine Sports Field.

Register by April 11 at AA Youth Services, 410-278-4995. Rain date is April 30.

Split Your Sides Laughing Comedy Show

"Split Your Sides Laughing" Comedy Show, Ricky Shackelford Production, will be held April 16 in the APG Post Theater with Laughin' Lenny, Howard "G", Rick Younger and Shelia "Strawberry" Gaskins.

Doors open at 8 p.m. and the show begins at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for upper level, \$15 for upper level in advance and \$20 at the door.

An after party will be held in the AA Recreation Center immediately following the show for all ticket stub holders.

Cost without the ticket stub is \$5.

Link Up 2 Golf

This class begins April 22, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Ruggles Golf Course.

Cost is \$99 for E1 through E5, \$109 for authorized players and \$129 for the public.

Fee includes 7-hours of instruction time, 3-hours on-course playing experiences with instructor (1 to 4 holes each time), rental club usage (if needed), greens fees and cart fees during on-course playing sessions, and 15 free buckets of range balls for outside practice on the driving range.

For more information or to register, call Ruggles Golf Course at 410-278-4794 or MWR Registration at 410-278-4907 or visit mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Coaches needed

The Child and Youth Services/MWR Youth Flag football program is in need of volunteer coaches for the 6- to 8-year old program.

Practices are 1 to 2 days per week for an hour each and games are on Saturdays, beginning May 7.

If interested, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

Harlem Experience

Experience the history and renaissance of Harlem, 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., June 11, beginning with lunch at Sylvia's Restaurant, the Queen of Soul Food.

Travel back in time with a tour of the Apollo Theater and the Cotton Club plus have time to shop in mid-town Manhattan. Cost is \$80. Register by April 29.

Travel Fair

The 2005 APG/MWR Spring Amusement & Travel Extravaganza will feature representatives from amusement parks, local attractions and hotels 10:30 to 2 p.m., May 12 in the AA Recreation Center.

Get a jump-start on the summer vacation all in one place.

For more information, contact MWR Registration, 410-278-4907/4011.

Basic auto mechanics class

Instructional classes designed to enable the student to perform maintenance on a vehicle's engine and accessories will be taught Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m., June 1 through 22, Automotive Crafts, building 2379.

The skills learned in this class can also be applied to lawn mower engines as well as other small engines.

The hands-on training received in these classes will enable participants to recognize the warning signs and gain the skills needed to help them maintain their vehicles, possibly, helping to avoid expensive repairs.

Cost is \$35. Register by May 26.

Women's Golf League

The women's golf league will run May 5 to Sept. 29, with tee times between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. This league is a weekly gathering at Ruggles Golf Course.

Groups will be set up for those not already in a foursome. It's a just for fun league, no competition. All skill levels welcome.

Cost is a \$10 registration fee and weekly greens fee. Register by May 5.

Registering for the School Age/Middle School Services Summer Program

The Aberdeen and Edgewood Summer Program will run for nine weeks, 6:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, June 20 through Aug. 19.

The program is open to all qualifying children who have completed 1st through 8th grades. Sign up for the weeks needed. Tuition fees are based on total family income.

Waiting list forms may be picked up and dropped off 7:30 a.m., at the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902 or the Outreach Services building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-2582.

Waiting list forms will not be distributed or accepted at the Aberdeen Youth Services.

Registration will be held April 2 at the Edgewood Youth Services and April 9 at the Aberdeen Youth Services for all sponsors who have been offered openings by the Central Registration office.

Registration packets, an up-to-date physical and family income information must be completed prior to the registration appointment.

A \$20 non-refundable deposit is required per child at the time of registration for each week selected.

For more information, call the Outreach Services Office at 410-278-7571 or 7479.

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

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|---|--|
| Audrey Alba | gia condition) |
| Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia) | Richard Hoffman |
| Dianna Blevins | Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy) |
| Sarah Blevins | Beverly King (caring for husband) |
| Jeanie Bowman | Danny Kopp (lung-cancer) |
| Iris Campbell (chemotherapy) | William B. McLean (kidney failure) |
| Steven Clarke | Joe McMonagle |
| Barbara Crossley | Karen Milton |
| Dawn Crouse | Tess Ramos (total hip replacement) |
| Ruth Cunningham | Boyd Richards |
| Victoria Cwiertnie (lyme disease) | Cheryl L. Roark |
| Carl Davis | Leigh Sanders |
| Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo) | Barbara Seker |
| Geraldine Eaton | Suzette Shields |
| John Gage | Joyce Steininger |
| Renee Gaffney | Alison Tichenor |
| Charles Gambrell | Linda Tignor |
| Miriam Garcia | Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant) |
| Susan Gorhan | Marenda Tate |
| Beatrice Heilpern | Gary Tudor - (heart valve replacement) |
| Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications) | Gerard Yursis |
| Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyal- | |



Col. John T. Wright, APG garrison and deputy installation commander, center, delivers the out briefing to conclude the 2005 Army Family Action Plan Symposium at Top of the Bay March 31.

AFAP

From front page

APG 2005 AFAP Symposium out brief recommendations

Issues which cannot be solved at the installation level will be forwarded to the MACOM conference in June.

Community services

- Establish a physical training child care program in the Edgewood Area
- Open Child Development Center at 5 a.m. to reflect appropriate PT hours

Family, force support

- Recommend female Soldiers remain non-deployable for one year after giving birth
- Crate and provide consistent tuition assistance funding Army-wide
- Issue coupons to cover cost of shipping one package per month to deployed Soldiers
- Give coupons to Soldiers prior to deployment so Soldiers can give coupons to family members of their choosing
- Establish weight limits in accordance with shipping standards

Housing and relocation

- Allocate 25 percent of temporary lodging rooms for families traveling with pets
- Provide statements of non-availability when rooms are not available for pet owners
- Establish on-post kennel with fees that are less than those charged off-post
- Include more information in in-bound resident’s video
- Include duties in spring/fall clean-up leaflets
- Include names of senior area coordinators in same leaflets

- Reinstate “Quarters of the Month” program
- Post signs at playgrounds regarding responsibilities
- Increase employee training on proper procedures for assigning housing
- Conduct Consideration of Others staff training
- Increase oversight of customer comment sheets (someone other than housing staff)
- Improve communication between housing and maintenance

Medical

- Government should subsidize dental coverage for retirees and their families at the same rate provided for active duty; provide more accessible dental facilities for retirees
- Pass legislation to permit TRICARE coverage of chiropractic care. Extend services for service members and family members to all medical treatment facilities
- Modify the current dental contract to cover general anesthesia when recommended by dentist

Youth

- Create new teen center (new facility; housing area; Quiet Lodge; old storage building; or Recreation Center)
- Add extension to existing center (facility expansion; portable facility; rearrange or renovate existing facility)
- Purchase or lease a second 15-passenger bus
- Make teen lounge for teens only
- Establish guidelines including more freedom in and around the center
- Provide new programs and activities for teens (computer programs; e-mail usage; Internet usage; music and games).

Community Notes

**SATURDAY
APRIL 9
WACVA CHAPTER
114 MEETING**

The Chesapeake Beacon, Chapter 114, of the Women's Army Corps Veterans' Association will hold its monthly meeting at the Perry Point VA Medical Center Outpatient Clinic, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

All women serving in the armed forces are welcome to attend and decide whether they would like to join the Women's Army Corps as regular members (all women serving in the Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Army Nurse Corps, Women's Army Corps and Women's Army Auxiliary Corps), members-at-large (women who do not want to belong to a chapter at this time), or associate members (women in the Air Force, Marines, Navy and Coast Guard).

For more information, call or e-mail Wanda Story, 410-272-5040 or OkieGirlMD@aol.com or visit Web site www.wacva.com.

**REPTILE, AMPHIBIAN
SEARCH**

The Anita C. Leight Estuary Center needs help in locating and identifying things that hop, slither and crawl around the woods and wetlands of the center 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Learn about the amphibians and reptiles that live in Maryland, then scour the park looking for them. No prior experience is necessary. Reservations are required.

For information, directions, or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 extension 1688.

The Estuary Center is located in southern Harford County, just east of Edgewood at 700 Otter Point Road, Abingdon.

2005 BEL AIR MS

WALK SCHEDULED

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Maryland Chapter will host the 2005 Bel Air MS Walk, 10 a.m., April 9, at the Bel Air High School. Check-in begins at 9 a.m.

Harford County Executive James Harkins and DJ David Schmidt will participate in the walk.

An MS Walk T-shirt will be awarded to participants who raise \$100 or more. Anyone who raises \$250 or more will be eligible for other prizes.

Participants can register in advance at www.mswalk-md.org or call 1-800-FIGHT-MS.

For more information, call 410-527-1770 or visit www.mswalk-md.org.

**SUNDAY
APRIL 14
BIRD WATCHING**

TOUR

Join the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center staff as they survey the park on foot to count and record the birds they hear and see, noon to 3 p.m.

The survey will help the staff keep valuable records of feathered residents.

There is no charge for this event.

Reservations are required.

For more information, directions, or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext 1688.

**SATURDAY
APRIL 16
EARTH DAY
CELEBRATION**

Celebrate Earth Day 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain date April 17), at Aberdeen Festival Park, located at Howard and Franklin Streets across from the library. Enjoy a fun, activ-

MOVIES

**ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.**

MAN OF THE HOUSE

Friday, April 8, 7 p.m.

Starring: Tommy Lee Jones, Cedric the Entertainer

A group of college cheerleaders witness a murder after one of their competitions. A veteran FBI agent (Tommy Lee Jones) is assigned to the case and goes undercover as an assistant coach to protect the rambunctious girls from the thugs determined to kill them before they can testify. (Rated PG-13)

**THE PACIFIER (FREE
ADMISSION)**

Saturday, April 9, 7 p.m.

Starring: Vin Diesel, Lauren Graham, Brittany Snow, Faith Ford

Navy SEAL Shane Wolfe

(Diesel), is assigned to protect the five out-of-control children of an assassinated scientist working on vital government secrets. Shane is suddenly faced with juggling two outrageously incompatible jobs: fighting the bad guys while keeping house. (Rated PG)

CURSED

Saturday, April 9, 9 p.m.

Starring: Christina Ricci, Jesse Eisenberg, and Joshua Jackson

A brother (Jesse Eisenberg) and sister (Christina Ricci), still mourning the loss of their parents, get into a car accident while driving home late one night. After the wreck, a strange creature attacks them, and in the following weeks, they both notice their bodies changing. (Rated PG-13)

Post Shorts

Aberdeen Proving Ground on April 4, and should take approximately six weeks to complete. Flushing will take place between the hours of 4 p.m.



**Channel 21 features
Pentagon channel programming**

The Pentagon Channel will feature the following programs on Channel 21. These programs are subject to change each week and will be updated accordingly.

Monday

Studio Five, 9 a.m., 3:30 and 9 p.m.
The American Veteran, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Tuesday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 and 8 p.m.
Your Corps, 10:30 a.m.
Studio Five, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 7 p.m.
Freedom Journal Iraq/Air Force Prime Time, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 and 8 p.m.
Studio Five, 9 a.m., 3 and 9 p.m.
The American Veteran, 1 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 9:30 a.m., 4 p.m.
Your Corps, 5 p.m.

Thursday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 p.m.
Studio Five, 7 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
Navy/Marine Corps News, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Friday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 and 8 p.m.
Studio Five, 7 and 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 3 p.m.
Your Corps, 4 p.m.

Saturday

Your Corps, 4 a.m.
Around the Services, 5:30 a.m.
Battleground, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Freedom Journal Iraq/Air Force Prime Time, 7:30 a.m.
Your Corps, 1:30 p.m.
Opportunity Showcase, 3 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 5:30 p.m.
The American Veteran,

6:30 p.m.
Studio Five, 8 p.m.

Sunday

Army Newswatch, 5:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Battleground, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Freedom Journal Iraq/Air Force Prime Time, 10:30 a.m.
Your Corps, 11 a.m.
Army Newswatch, noon
Navy/Marine Corps News, 3 p.m.

Army Newswatch – Bi-weekly report on the men and women of the Army
Around the Services – From the Pentagon Channel NewsCenter, daily half-hour program featuring military news from top defense officials and the military services from around the world

Studio Five – A conversation with the military: Weekly interviews of Defense Department about today's top issues

Your Corps – Monthly view of the men and women of the Marine Corps

Freedom Journal Iraq – A daily news program produced by American Forces Network Iraq. The program focuses on military missions, operations and U.S. military forces in Iraq

Air Force Prime Time - A weekly topical news program covering Air Force events and people for all of Europe, Southwest Asia and Africa. Produced by the Air Force Broadcasting Service, Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany

Opportunity Showcase - A monthly program dealing with a variety of subjects that benefit small business owners, transitioning military members and other subjects of opportunity-produced by the United States Air Force

The American Veteran - A half-hour video news magazine designed to inform veterans, their families and their communities about the services and benefits they have earned through their service to America and to recognize and honor that service

Battleground - Every weekend, this series features historic films from World War II, Korean War, and the Vietnam War. A Pentagon Channel Original Series

and midnight, Monday through Friday. Signs will be posted in the Family Housing Areas while flushing is being performed.

Bayside Village, New Chesapeake Gardens – week 1
Patriot Village – week 1-2
Trailer Park – week 2
Plum Point Housing – week 4 or 5

Hydrant flushing is subject to change due to the 1.5 mgd withdrawal permit.

For more information, call Dennis Overbay at 410-306-1844, or e-mail dennis.overbay@usag.apg.army.mil.

**ASAP Alcohol
screening April 7**

The Army Substance Abuse Program will observe National Alcohol Screening Day with screening booths, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. April 7 at the Post Exchange on the Aberdeen Area and at the Edgewood Area Shoppette. Staff members will be on hand to answer questions and offer pamphlets and other information.

For more information, contact Cindy Scott at 410-278-5319.

**POW/MIA memorial
to be dedicated
Saturday**

The state of Maryland POW/MIA memorial will be dedicated at Aberdeen Proving Ground this Saturday at noon at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum. Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and chief of Ordnance will host the ceremony, which will include local and state political leaders, the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) brass quintet and the OC&S color guard. Former prisoners of war, veterans, service members and their families are encouraged to attend.

The ceremony is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Ordnance Museum at 410-278-3602.

**Improving English
skills**

The Army Community Service Relocation Program offers English for Speakers of Other Languages classes for those needing a refresher course or for those with little or no English speaking or writing skills 9:30 to 11 a.m., Fridays, April 8 through May 13, at ACS, building 2754, Rodman Road.

The course is open to military personnel, APG civilians, retirees and adult family members 18 years and older.

The class is also designed for foreign-born adults providing an opportunity to improve their English comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills. An instructor from Harford Community College

will teach all sessions. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669.

**Adult American
citizenship class**

The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will offer a free class for military personnel or family members, preparing to take the Immigration and Naturalization test for American citizenship 6 to 8 p.m., Fridays, April 8 through May 13, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road.

The class covers citizenship procedures, how to fill out applications, basic American History and the Constitution. Attendees must attend all sessions to receive a Harford Community College certificate for attending a Citizenship class. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, call Marilyn Howard at 410-278-9669.

**Blue Cross/Blue
Shield service visit**

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit Aberdeen Proving Ground on April 12, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

The representative will be available in the Aberdeen Area only from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 236 (lower level); and in the Edgewood Area, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4811, the seminar area of the Conference Center.

For more information, contact Teri Wright, 410-278-4331, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

**20th Support
Command schedules
ceremony**

There will be an assumption of command ceremony 10 a.m., April 15, at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810, for Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin W. Womack Sr., senior non-commissioned officer of the U.S. Army 20th Support Command (CBRNE).

For additional information on the ceremony, call Sgt. Maj. Mark Froom, 410-436-0315.

**Holocaust Essay,
Display Contest**

All military, civilian, and family members within the APG community are invited to participate in the Holocaust essay and display contest sponsored by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

The theme for this year's observance is "Liberation to the Pursuit of Justice."

Displays may include mod-

els, posters and/or collages. Essays must be double-spaced, 12 fonts and two to four pages in length. The essay and display entry deadline is April 19.

The award ceremony will be held 2 p.m., April 28 in the Wadsworth Lobby of building 3071. Plaques will be awarded to first and second place winners in each category.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Arbel Connor, 410-278-2529, Sgt. 1st Class Peggy McCormick, 410-278-5598, or Sgt. 1st Class Tasha Ahmed, 410-436-1076.

**Law Day 2005
luncheon**

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will sponsor the 2005 Law Day luncheon 11:30 a.m., April 28 at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be Paul W. Grimm, U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

Cost to attend is \$14, payable by check to John R. Lilly. Seating is limited. Proper photo identification must be provided to enter APG; allow 10 minutes to enter APG. R.S.V.P. by April 20 to Nora Farrell, 410-278-1107, building 310, wing 1. No late responses or payments will be accepted after April 20.

**Coffee house invites
service members**

All Aberdeen Proving Ground service members are invited to visit the Christian Coffee House, also known as "The Well," for a spiritually refreshing good time. Lounge on sofas and chat with friend, watch movies on the big screen TV, enjoy free refreshments, play games, listen to live music or join in with your own voice or instrument.

Located in building 4308, next to the Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion barracks, "The Well" is open every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. until everyone leaves.

For more information, contact Pfc. Steven Presser, chaplain assistant, 410-278-5395.

**ASAP Website up
and running**

The new Army Substance Abuse Program Web site is up and running and accessible from the Aberdeen Proving Ground home page. Click on the blue ASAP box on the right side of the screen.

The site contains information, training schedules, links to substance abuse and youth awareness Web sites and online supervisor and alcohol training.

**KUSAHC closes on
Saturdays**

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is no longer open on Saturday.

For appointments, call the clinic at 410-278-5475. Clinic hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.,

Monday through Friday.

Active Duty Sick Call hours remain the same with sign in at 5:30 a.m. for both the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Troop Medical clinics.

**Flu vaccine for
military eligible
beneficiaries**

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is encouraging all military eligible beneficiaries to get protected by getting a flu shot. Eligible health care beneficiaries include those who are active duty or retirees and their eligible family members.

The Kirk Immunization Clinic at Aberdeen is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to noon, closed each day for lunch noon to 1 p.m. and reopens Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1 to 4 p.m. On Thursday afternoon, the hours are 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information or updates, call the Flu Vaccine Hotline at 410-305-FLUV (4-3588).

**Antiterrorism/Force
Protection (AT/FP)
training schedule**

Annual antiterrorism awareness training for civilian and military personnel is available at the Intelligence Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, building 4727, room 20, Deer Creek Loop, or online at www.at-awareness.org.

The access word for the site is AWARE. After completion of the self-paced course, provide one copy of the certificate to training coordinators and keep one copy.

Training is held at on Tuesdays, 8 to 9:30 a.m. at DLES on April 5; April 19; May 3; May 17; June 7; June 21; July 5; July 19; Aug. 9; Aug. 23; Sept. 6; Sept. 20; Oct. 11; Oct. 25; Nov. 8; Nov. 22; Dec. 6; and Dec. 20.

**Mowing season
approaches**

The grass cutting season runs April 15 through Nov. 15.

Changes have been made to increase the services provided to highly visible and much traveled areas such as the Post Chapel, PX, Commissary, bowling Center area and Burger King. Other areas less traveled such as large fields and ranges will be allowed to grow a few inches higher as a cost saving measure.

Tenant activities requiring service above the basic level must provide such information to the DIO. Information must include the type of service and the date the service is required.

For more information, contact the Contracting Officer Representative George Phillips at 410-306-2311.

**2005 National Gulf
War Resource
Center Conference**



Learning the facts about alcohol abuse

Cindy Scott
ASAP

The APG Army Substance Abuse Program wants to know “What do you know about alcohol?”

Learn the facts:

What is alcohol? Alcohol is a drug that contains ethanol, a substance, which depresses the body’s central nervous system.

What are the different forms of alcohol? Wine, wine coolers, beer and distilled spirits all contain alcohol. A 12-ounce wine cooler contains approximately 7 percent alcohol, the same amount as in 1 ounce of 80 proof distilled spirits, 5 ounces of wine or a 12-ounce beer.

How does alcohol affect the body? The moment alcohol enters the body; it is absorbed directly into the bloodstream through the walls of the stomach. The heart starts beating faster and skin becomes flushed. Coordination, depth perception, reflexes, vision, reason, and judgment are adversely affected. Alcohol attacks liver cells, destroys proteins, and disrupts the body’s balance of sugar and water. Drinking alcohol can cause high blood pressure, heart disease, and cirrhosis of the liver, malnutrition and death.

What’s the truth about “sobering up”? Drinking coffee only makes a wide awake drunk, going for a brisk walk or taking a cold shower will provide exercise and a clean drunk. The only thing that will “sober up” is time. The liver does most of the work to rid the body of alcohol and nothing can be done to speed

up the elimination process. Drinking milk or eating a meal before drinking alcohol will not prevent a person’s getting drunk. While body weight and the rate of alcohol consumption directly influence the amount of alcohol needed to make a person drunk, nothing will prevent alcohol from entering the blood-stream.

How do people become addicted to alcohol? Alcoholism is a disease that develops when alcohol reacts with a person’s particular body chemistry. Depending on a person’s physical make-up, it may take just a little. Each person is born with a certain level of risk for developing this disease. Teenagers can quickly become addicted to alcohol because a young person’s liver metabolizes alcohol more rapidly than an adult’s. They may build up a tolerance to the drug, requiring more and more alcohol to achieve the same effect.

What are the warning signs of alcoholism?

- Needing a drink to start the day.
- Chronic hangovers.
- Making excuses for drinking.
- Frequent absenteeism from work or school.
- Sneaking extra drinks, gulping drinks.

Effects

Short-term risks include impaired judgment, automobile accidents, unwanted pregnancy, criminal problems and DWI/DUIs.

Long-term risks include mental health, depression and anxiety, paranoia and possible suicide.

Financial problems can include loss of employment, damage

to personal property and the expense of alcohol abuse.

Physical health from increased risk of heart disease, nervous disorders, cancer and malnutrition.

Family problems including violence, disruption of home life and alienation of spouses, parents, children and other family members.

Work/school problems include poor attendance, substandard work/school production, alienation of co-workers and classmates and loss of employment.

Alcohol is a dangerous and powerful drug that impacts millions of lives everyday.

More alcohol facts

- Alcohol is involved in 60 percent of all auto fatalities.
- Individuals under the influence of alcohol commit 83 percent of murders and 72 percent of sexual assaults.
- 4.6 million teenagers are problem drinkers.
- Alcohol is involved in 60 percent of reported cases of child abuse.

Alcohol costs the economy \$50 billion a year in lost productivity and health care costs.

For prevention and awareness questions and ASAP training issues, contact Cynthia Scott, 410-278-3784, e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@usag.apg.army.mil or visit building 2477.

A new Web site is now available through the APG Web site, **www.apg.army.mil**. Click on the blue ASAP box on the right side of the homepage.

Understanding the new OTC medicine label

ASAP

The Army Substance Abuse Program wants the APG community to be aware that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued a new labeling regulation.

This new regulation is to ensure that the labels on all over-the-counter medicines have information listed in the same order, are arranged in a simple eye catching, consistent style; and contain easier to understand words.

“Keeping the community informed about important issues such as this new label change is an important service the ASAP provides,” said Cindy Scott, the ASAP prevention coordinator. What’s on the new label?

All nonprescription, over-the-counter medicine labels have detailed usage and warning labels so consumers can properly choose and use products.

What information will be on the new labels and why is it important?

‘Active ingredient’ is the therapeutic substance in the product and the amount of active ingredient per unit.

The ‘Purpose’ section covers product action or category (such as an antihistamine, antacid, or cough suppressant).

The ‘Uses’ area discusses the symptoms or diseases the product will treat or prevent.

‘Warnings’ discusses when not to use the product; condition that may require advice from a doctor before taking the product; possible interactions or side effects; when to stop taking the product and when to contact a doctor; if user is pregnant or breastfeeding, to seek guidance from a health care professional; and to keep

product out of children’s reach.

‘Directions’ provide specific age categories, how much to take, how to take, and how often and how long to take.

The ‘Other Information’ area looks at where to store the product properly, and required information about certain ingredients (such as the amount of calcium, potassium, or sodium) the product contains.

The ‘Inactive Ingredients’ area indicates colors or flavors.

The label also lists the expiration date, lot or batch number, name and address of manufacturer, net quantity of product in each package and what to do if an overdose occurs.

“When using over-the-counter products, reading the product label is one of the most important parts of taking care of yourself and your family,” Scott said. “If you read the label and still have questions, contact your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional. Inspecting the product for tampering is another important issue. If the tamper-evident packaging doesn’t look right, don’t use it.

“And, remember to keep all medicines out of the sight and reach of children,” Scott concluded.

For more information on OTC labeling or any other substance abuse issue, contact Scott at 410-278-3784, e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@usag.apg.army.mil or visit the ASAP office in building 2477 and speak with an ASAP staff member.

The new SAP Web site can be viewed by going to the APG Homepage, **www.apg.army.mil**, and clicking on the blue ASAP box on the right side of the page.

Loss prevention associate prevents loss of a life for the second time in less than a year

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

A young service member drifted around the store, keeping to himself and apparently looking for nothing in particular. His effort to blend in, however, only drew the sharp eye of Brenda Capulli, and that is what saved his life.

Capulli, a loss prevention associate with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Exchange, watched as the young service member picked up two CDs then found his way to the cold medicine aisle.

“He was just walking around looking sad,” she said. “Most come in with at least one friend, but he spoke to no one.”

Capulli watched as the young man purchased five boxes of Robitussin cold tablets and left the store.

She said she was alarmed by the large purchase but unable to do anything about it.

“We can’t confront anyone as long as they pay for their purchase,” she said.

Concerned by the subject’s demeanor, however, Capulli contacted the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security’s Investigative Services Division.

“I couldn’t name him because he wasn’t in uniform,” she said, “but he was wearing a jacket with the Air Force logo on the back.”

Investigators contacted the first sergeant of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools’ U.S. Air Force Detachment who came in to view the security footage and recognized the young Airman.

“The next day, the [detachment] commander told us they went to his room and found him unconscious,” Capulli said.

The Airman had swallowed the contents of all five boxes and had to be

rushed to a local hospital. He was revived and later admitted that he had intentionally attempted suicide.

“Luckily, they got to him within an hour of his taking it,” Capulli said.

In recognition for her life-saving actions, Capulli was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation signed by USAF Col. Ronnie J. Bullock, Director of Loss Prevention, AAFES, during a ceremony at the APG Post Exchange March 30.

APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby gave Capulli a Commander’s Coin on behalf of Col. John T. Wright, garrison and deputy installation commander.

In addition, members of Capulli’s chain of command who included Joe Thompson, AAFES regional director of loss prevention; Theresa McDonald, area loss prevention manager; and Maria Harris, Fort Meade loss preven-

See LIFE SAVING, page 14

| Drug Facts | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Active ingredient (in each tablet) Chlorpheniramine maleate 2 mg. | Purpose Antihistamine |
| Uses temporarily relieves these symptoms due to hay fever or other upper respiratory allergies: ■ sneezing ■ runny nose ■ itchy, watery eyes ■ itchy throat | |
| Warnings Ask a doctor before use if you have: ■ glaucoma ■ a breathing problem such as emphysema or chronic bronchitis ■ trouble urinating due to an enlarged prostate gland Ask a doctor or pharmacist before use if you are taking tranquilizers or sedatives When using this product: ■ drowsiness may occur ■ avoid alcoholic drinks ■ alcohol, sedatives, and tranquilizers may increase drowsiness ■ be careful when driving a motor vehicle or operating machinery ■ excitability may occur, especially in children If pregnant or breast-feeding, ask a health professional before use. Keep out of reach of children. In case of overdose, get medical help or contact a Poison Control Center right away. | |
| Directions adults and children 12 years and over: take 2 tablets every 4 to 6 hours; not more than 12 tablets in 24 hours children 6 years to under 12 years: take 1 tablet every 4 to 6 hours; not more than 6 tablets in 24 hours children under 6 years: ask a doctor | |

| Drug Facts (continued) | |
|---|--|
| Other information ■ store at 20-25° C (68-77° F) ■ protect from excessive moisture | |
| Inactive ingredients D&C yellow no. 10, lactose, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, pregelatinized starch | |

sample new label

APG organizations participating in Earth Day activity

APG News

As part of its continuing efforts to keep the local community informed of the progress made at the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, the Army's Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Office will join many other environmentally friendly local organizations at Festival Park in Aberdeen Earth Day, April 16.

This year's theme will be "Making a Safer Maryland Today," highlighting ABCDF's processing of its final batch of mustard agent drained from the last Aberdeen container, and becoming the first state in the continental United States to have safely eliminated its chemical agent stockpile.

APG's environmental cleanup program will be displaying information on some of the significant environmental projects completed or begun in the last year. Information will highlight the continued efforts to stabilize the shoreline against the impacts of erosion in the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas, the design of

a unique method for remediation of the groundwater at Graces Quarters, the removal of hazardous material from New O-Field and the RAD Yard, the expansion of the use of trees (phytoremediation) to clean groundwater, and ongoing operation of several groundwater treatment plants. Children who stop by the booth will have the opportunity to make a souvenir "buggy bookmark."

The City of Aberdeen will host this year's Earth Day celebration 11 a.m., in Festival Park located at Howard and Franklin streets across from the library.

An activity-packed day is planned for all ages including live music, a rock climbing wall, an 'earth' bounce, face painting, recycle games, environmental exhibits, and more.

Children can bring a 100 percent cotton T-shirt to Tie-Dy.

Anyone who brings a blue recycling bag of packaged food, pet food, or clothing to benefit the needy will get three free game tokens.

For more information, call 410-297-4215.

KUSAHC improving access to care

KUSAHC

Effective April 15, the General Medicine Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be reorganized and streamlined.

Adult patients previously reporting to two separate areas for primary and wellness care will report to one strategically located clinic adjacent to the KUSAHC main waiting area.

Patient care areas have been refurbished and modernized to provide improved access and egress.

"Our goal to our beneficiaries is to provide easily accessible treatment in a caring environment," said Janice Spellman, patient advocate. "If patients should have any questions, they can call me at 410-278-1724. "

An upcoming expansion at

KUSAHC will be the relocation of the Medical Records Room on the first floor.

This relocation is necessary to accommodate the large number of medical records on file for KUSAHC beneficiaries.

"The relocation of the

Medical Records Room will allow for the expansion of the pharmacy by the end of the fiscal year," Spellman added.

More information will be provided upon completion of renovations.

APG schedules Annual Security Awareness Training

DLES

The APG Intelligence Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security will present the Annual Security Awareness Training Program 8 and 10 a.m. at the Post Theater and at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810 over a 16-week period to ensure everyone will have the opportunity to receive the training.

Seating is limited, particularly in the Edgewood Area since the Conference Center can only seat 220 personnel. Attendance is limited to government and contractor personnel and training is classified as For Official Use Only. Family members are not permitted at these briefings.

At the conclusion of the training session, EAP Form 1198, Security Awareness Attendance Form, will be distributed to verify attendance.

Aberdeen Area Post Theater, building 3245
Wednesday, June 1

Wednesday, June 8
Wednesday, June 29
Thursday, July 7
Tuesday, July 12
Wednesday, July 20
Thursday, July 28

Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810
Tuesday, June 7
Thursday, June 9
Wednesday, June 15
Thursday, June 16
Tuesday, June 21
Tuesday, June 28
Tuesday, July 5
Wednesday, July 6
Thursday, July 14
Tuesday, July 26
Wednesday, July 27
Wednesday, Aug. 3
Tuesday, Aug. 9
Wednesday, Aug. 17

Attendees are encouraged to arrive 10 minutes prior to the stated briefing times, as no one will be admitted once the briefing has begun.

For more information, call Pete Leon Guerrero or Rick De Oliveira, 410-278-7401/7339.

Life saving

From page 13

tion manager offered their congratulations along with Dawn Fischer, chief of ISD and Cindy Scott of the Army Substance Abuse Program.

"In essence, her whole job is to constantly observe all types of activity," Thompson said of Capulli's role. "This goes above and beyond what is required or expected of associates."

McDonald added that the incident was a rare occurrence

in loss prevention.

"It demonstrates what a sharp observer she is," McDonald said. "It takes someone special to look beyond what's in front of them."

"She may be more observant than others because this is not the first for her," added Harris.

In the summer of 2004, Capulli observed a Soldier buying two boxes of Coricidin cough and cold tablets, which contain dextromethorphan, an increasingly popular recreational drug among youth that is deadly in high doses.

In that case, the Soldier spent two days on life support but did survive thanks to Capulli's intervention, Harris said.

Harris who is responsible for loss prevention in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas, Fort Meade, Fort Detrick and Dover Air Force Base, said that associates are becoming more aware of recreational drug usage.

"It's an over the counter medicine so it's easily accessible to them," she said.

"I'd seen the news bulletins and thought it would be a good idea to keep an eye out,"

Capulli added.

She noted that it is up to law enforcement authorities and not loss prevention associates to pursue the individuals.

"All we can do is share what we observe," Capulli said.

"This was another example of how important education is," Scott said, noting that ASAP will continue to focus on educating the community about over the counter drug abuse.

"It takes more than one pair of eyes," Scott said. "It takes all of us."

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MOH

From front page

by more than 100 enemies.

Smith threw two grenades and fired rocket launchers at the enemy before manning a

.50-caliber machine gun on an M-113 Armored Personnel Carrier to protect his troops. While engaging an enemy attacking from three sides, Smith fired more than 300 rounds from the machinegun before being killed.

He prevented the enemy from overtaking his unit's position, protected his Task Force's flank, and defended the lives of more than 100 Soldiers, according to his award citation.

Smith was serving as a platoon sergeant in Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion, Task Force 2-7, 3rd Infantry Division. He had been serving in the Army since October 1989.

For more information about Smith, including detailed accounts of his action, see other stories on the Army News Service Web site, www.army.mil/arnews or visit the special tribute Web site, www.army.mil/medalofhonor/.

AUSA

From front page

in reaction to changing priorities. Project leaders must not take that personally.

"We no longer let projects linger in research and development centers until the money dries up," Nadeau said. "We identify those projects that no longer align with Army top priorities and alter or terminate them while there's still money left in those projects so we can use the funding elsewhere."

To ensure the higher priority projects are identified, Nadeau said his command works with the program executive offices and project managers to match priorities as well as taking cues from Army leadership in order to balance investments between current and future Army.

"RDECOM works very closely with TRADOC [U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command]. At the senior Army level we are informing the leadership as to what type of technologies we are trying to pull in faster so that between them, if someone thinks we've invested in the wrong directions we can pull it in before we get too far out. The process is not perfect but it is better than it was a year ago," he said. "And it's getting more efficient every day."